SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 967 By Finney

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sergeant Victoir P. Lieurance.

WHEREAS, from time to time, it is necessary for the members of this General Assembly to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Staff Sergeant Victoir Patric Lieurance, 3rd Squadron, 278th Regimental Combat Team, Tennessee Army National Guard, who was killed in action while serving near Salah A Din in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Lieurance served with distinction during his tour of active duty in Iraq with the Troop B, First Platoon of the 278th Regimental Combat Team; he has been posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, campaign ribbons, and an advancement in rank; and

WHEREAS, born on December 6, 1970, and known as "Vic" to his family and friends, Victoir Patric Lieurance was a beloved son, husband, brother, and father; and

WHEREAS, this valiant soldier is survived by his loving wife, Penny; two sons, Chase and Damien; two step-daughters, Alina and Ciera; three sisters, Susanne Lieurance, Claire Lieurance, and Jonette Demange; a brother, Hank Lieurance; and his parents, Andre and Karen Lieurance; and

WHEREAS, following a long-standing family tradition of military service, Vic Lieurance joined the United States Army soon after graduating from high school in Carter, Georgia; his father, Andre Lieurance, served 26 exemplary years in the United States Navy before retiring, and his mother, Karen Lieurance, is a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy; his sister, Jonette Demange, served her country for 8 years in the United Sates Army; and

WHEREAS, a courageous veteran of the Gulf War, Vic Lieurance wanted to be a soldier from the time he was a small boy and, as a child, even kept a treasure chest of discarded military equipment that he had collected near his boyhood home in Fort Lewis, Washington; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Lieurance truly loved the Army and took great pride in the important role he played in our nation's defense; after completing his tour of duty, he joined the Reserves and moved to Seymour, where he came to treasure the close-knit community's values; and

WHEREAS, an avid outdoorsman, Vic Lieurance was a valuable employee of the United States Postal Service prior to his deployment to Iraq; and

WHEREAS, like thousands of others of this nation's sons and daughters, Staff Sergeant Lieurance did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and liberty and to free the Iraqi people; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Lieurance served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the Tennessee National Guard, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Vic Lieurance's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers and his country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history, and his life should be properly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sergeant Victoir P. Lieurance, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Sergeant Lieurance.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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